Opium Cultivators and Average Yield

2243. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of opium cultivators in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan ;

(b) the average yield during the last five years in each of the above States;

(c) whether there has been an increase in the average yield of opium; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) The number of licensed opium cultivators in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan during 1991-92 was as follows :

Madhya Pradesh	69487 (Provisional)
Rajasthan	45637 (Provisional)
Uttar Pradesh . .	27171 (Provisional)

(b) The average yield per hectare during the last 5 years in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh were as follows :

AVERAGE YIELD PER HECTARE AT 70°C (IN KGS.)

	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92 (Provisional)
Madhya Pradesh .	41.062	43.182	41.464	37.398	44.396
Rajasthan . .	39.727	44.187	41.277	35.102	46.580
Uttar Pradesh . .	22.131	36.258	29.699	31.851	40.337

(c) and (d) The increase in average yield during 1991-92 was mainly due to better crop conditions in all the opium growing areas of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Conditions of service in Banks

2244. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether service conditions for employees of State Bank of India and other nationalised banks are different;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such discrimination; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to remove such discrepancies and differences in service conditions and various other rules ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (c) The employees in State Bank of India and other public sector banks are classified into two categories viz. (i) award staff, which constitutes employees in the clerical cadre and subordinate staff, and (ii) officers. The service conditions of award staff are governed by the bi-partite settlements signed by Indian Banks Association (on behalf of the managements of the member banks) and representatives of Award Staff Unions. The service conditons of the award staff in State Bank of India and other nationalised banks are thus identical except in respect of items for which specific provisions have been made in the bi-partite settlements/awards.

As regards officers in Scale-I to IV, the pay scales and service conditions are broadly at par with those of the other public sector banks except that Proba-